

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented method for generating annotation instructions in a system comprising a content provider computer system storing content documents, a central computer system, and a client computer system configured to be provided with a content document, the method comprising:
 - in an electronic content document retrievable from the content provider computer system ~~storing content documents~~, embedding programming language code executable by the client computer to invoke the central computer system to recognize key elements based on key elements contained in a key-element list;
 - on the central computer system, recognizing key elements in the document based on the key elements in the key-element list; and
 - on the central computer system, generating annotation instructions for the client computer system to ~~create one or more annotations for~~ annotate the content document by annotating one or more key elements in the content document ~~and sending the instructions to the client computer system~~; and sending the annotation instructions from the central computer system to the client computer system, ~~and wherein a computer system other than the central computer system is not the computer system providing~~ provides the content document to the client computer system.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the code embedded into the content document is embedded by a computer system under the control of the party controlling the content provider computer system.
3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the code embedded into the content document is embedded by a computer system under the control of the party controlling the central computer system.
4. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein, the code embedded into the content document is embedded by a party controlling a computer system associated with the Internet service provider for the client computer system.
5. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the annotation for a key element is associated with data ("key element data") that is suitable for forming a query for use by a search engine to locate information related to the key element.
6. (Original) The method of claim 5, further comprising using the key element data to query a database of a computer system remote from the client system, the key element data being sent to the remote computer by the client computer system, following a user's selection of the annotation.
7. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein the search is adapted to find information about products relating to the key element associated with the annotation.
8. (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein product-related information responsive to the query is returned to the user selecting the annotation.

9. (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein the product-related information is in the nature of at least one of (i) comparative product information and (ii) products listed by production.
10. (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein the information is provided in a target document that includes means for a user to electronically retrieve additional information about a listed product.
11. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 10, wherein the target document is associated with means for making an online purchase of a listed product.
12. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the key element data associated with the annotation corresponds to the URL for a static document available over the Internet.
13. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein following a user's selection of an annotation key element data is sent to a remote computer system, the remote computer system uses the data to dynamically generate data comprising a data object for sending to the client computer system.
14. (Original) The method of claim 13, wherein the data object comprises streaming media.
15. (Original) The method of claim 13, wherein the data object comprises computer code executable by the client computer system.
16. (Cancelled)

17. (Cancelled)
18. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the annotation instructions direct the creation of a hyperlink in association with a key element.
19. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the annotation instructions direct the creation of a pop-up window with links to information related to a key element recognized by a recognizer.
20. (Previously presented) A computer-implemented method for sending annotation instructions in a system comprising at least two computer systems, the method comprising:
- on a first computer system, receiving over a packet-switched network a web page, the web page corresponding to a web page presented to the user of a second computer system;
 - on the first computer system, recognizing in the web page one or more predetermined key elements based on a key-element list, the key element list comprising one or more words relating to one or more products; and
 - the first computer system sending annotation instructions from the first computer system to the second computer system for use in creating annotations on the web page presented on the second computer, and
 - wherein the first computer system receives the web page when it is being presented to the user of the second computer system and the source of the web page is a content provider computer system other than the first and second computer systems.

21. (Original) The method of claim 20, wherein each key element has a corresponding identifier that corresponds to a URL, and the annotation for a key element includes key element data for forming a search query, the data being transmittable to a computer system with a search engine upon user selection of an annotated key element.
22. (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented method comprising:
receiving on a central computer system web page information about a web page being rendered on a client computer system; and
in response to the web page information, the central computer system determining and sending a key list to the client computer system, the client computer having executable code for performing one or both of annotation and recognition of key elements on the key list, the key list comprising a set of key elements and corresponding identifiers; and the key list being adapted for the client computer to use in performing on an electronic document presented to a user of the computer system from a content provider computer system one or more of (i) recognizing key elements and (ii) annotating key elements; and
wherein the web page information corresponds to a web page from a ~~source computer~~ system other than the client and central computer systems.
23. (Original) The method of claim 22, wherein the code includes means for key elements to be associated with a hyperlink to information related to a key element on the electronic document.

24. (Original) The method of claim 22, wherein the code includes means for key elements to be associated with a pop-up window displaying at least one link to information related to a key element on the electronic document.
25. (Original) The method of claim 22, wherein the electronic document is a web page sent over a packet-switched network.
26. (Original) The method of claim 22, wherein the client computer system has code for performing both annotation and recognition of a web page received from a content provider.
27. (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented method ~~performed~~ performed using a system comprising at least a content provider computer system and a consumer computer system, the method comprising:
- on the consumer computer system, receiving from the content provider computer system an electronic document with at least one predetermined key element;
- from a central computer system other than the content provider computer system, knowing the identity of the electronic document received on the consumer computer system, sending instructions to the consumer computer system for presenting to the user of the consumer computer system one or more hyperlinks related to a key element on the electronic document so the user may retrieve data or information related to the key element, the key element being contained in a key-element list, ~~wherein the central computer system did not provide the electronic document received on the first computer system.~~

28. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 27, wherein the instructions to the first computer system are usable by that system to annotate the electronic document with data corresponding to an identifier for a key element.
29. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 27, wherein the electronic document includes code executable by the second computer system to generate annotation instructions that are sent to the first computer system for use in generating the hyperlink.
30. (Original) The method of claim 29, wherein the electronic document is a web page, and prior to being received by the first computer system, a code executable by the first computer system is embedded in the web page, the code being capable of invoking the second computer to generate annotation instructions for the first computer system.
31. (Original) The method of claim 30, wherein the code is executable by the second computer to retrieve a web page corresponding to the one received on the first computer system, the second computer recognizing predetermined key elements on the web page and sending annotation instructions to the first computer system for annotation of the web page on the first computer system.
32. (Original) The method of claim 29, wherein the code is embedded in the electronic document by a computer system of an Internet service provider that serves as a conduit for the electronic page received by the first computer system.
33. (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented method in a system comprising at least two computer systems, the method comprising:

from a first computer system sending to a second computer system a set of predetermined key elements and corresponding identifiers for use in creating annotations for key elements on an electronic document, the annotations ~~are being made~~ in addition to ~~these native to~~ content in the electronic document, as renderably received by the first computer system; receiving from the second computer system data associated with an annotation for a key element ("key element data") following selection of ~~an annotation~~ one or more of the annotations by a user of the second computer system, wherein the selected annotation was ~~created~~ generated by the second computer system using the key elements and corresponding identifiers provided by the first computer system; the first or second computer system retrieving or generating data or information responsive to the key element data received from the second computer system; sending from the first or second computer system the data the information to a computer system or output device associated with the user selecting the annotation; and wherein the first computer includes recognition and annotation modules, and the key element data is based on selection of an annotation and is sent following the first computer system's operation of recognition/annotation modules to identify and annotate key elements in the document that were not previously annotated by a content provider providing the document; and wherein the content provider is a computer system other than the first and second computer systems.

34. (Original) The method of claim 33, wherein the key element data is suitable for forming a query for use by a search engine to locate information related to the key element, the key element data being transferred over a packet-switched network to another computer system.
35. (Original) The method of claim 34, wherein the information relates to products relating to the key element.
36. (Original) The method of claim 35, further comprising using the key element data to formulate a query in a database coupled to the other computer system and sending product-related information generated from the query to the user selecting the annotation.
37. (Original) The method of claim 36, wherein the product-related information includes products listed by product category.
38. (Original) The method of claim 36, wherein the product-related information includes comparative product information.
39. (Original) The method of claim 36, wherein the information is provided in a target document that includes means for a user to electronically retrieve additional information about a listed product.
40. (Original) The method of claim 39, wherein the target document is associated with means for making an online purchase of a listed product.

41. (Original) The method of claim 33, wherein the key element data comprises the URL for a static document available over the Internet.
42. (Original) The method of claim 33, wherein the key element data is used to dynamically generate data comprising a data object for sending to the second computer system.
43. (Original) The method of claim 42, wherein the data object comprises streaming media.
44. (Original) The method of claim 42, wherein the data object comprises computer code executable by the second computer system.
45. (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented implementable method for use on a system of networked computers, the method comprising:
- from a ~~first~~ central computer system, transmitting to a consumer computer system a consumer code executable on the consumer computer system for (i) the consumer computer system to recognize predetermined key elements on an electronic document and (ii) the consumer computer system to annotate the key elements by associating recognized key elements with a URL for ~~another~~ a second computer system, the ~~address~~ URL being determinable from a key list comprising a set of key elements and corresponding identifiers;
- in response to a request from the consumer computer system, ~~a~~ the central computer system sending a set of predetermined key elements and corresponding identifiers for use in creating annotations for key elements on an electronic document on the consumer computer system, the annotations ~~are being made in addition to these native to~~ content of the

electronic document, as renderably received by the first consumer computer system, and wherein the source of the electronic content document is other than the consumer and central computer systems.

46. (Original) The method of claim 45 wherein the code is executable to recognize and annotate key elements on a web page received from a content provider computer system.
47. (Original) The method of claim 46, wherein one or more key elements comprise one or more words.
48. (Currently Amended) A computer readable medium having code stored in ~~memory thereon, the code being executable on~~ a central computer system and ~~executable thereon, the code being~~ invokable on the central computer system by a client computer system to generate annotation instructions for the client computer system to associate annotations with key elements on an electronic page received by the client computer system from a content provider computer system other than the central computer system, the key elements being contained in a key element list, wherein the annotations are ~~being made in addition to these native to~~ content of the original document ~~electronic page~~, as renderably received by the client computer system, and wherein each ~~the~~ annotation comprises a hyperlink and ~~an item~~ a selected from the ~~group consisting of~~ one or more of a script, an executable code, an additional hyperlink, and a formatting.

49. (Currently Amended) A computer readable medium having code stored thereon, the code being executable in memory on a consumer computer system and executable thereon, the code being adapted to cause the consumer computer system to (i) recognize predetermined key elements on an electronic document received from a content provider computer system other than a central computer system, the predetermined key elements being contained in a set of key elements, and (ii) create an annotation for a key element by associating recognized key elements with an identifier corresponding to the address of a computer system other than the content provider computer system, the identifier being determined from the set of key elements and corresponding identifiers stored on the consumer computer system, and wherein, the annotation is ~~being made~~ in addition to ~~these~~ a native to content of the original electronic document, as renderably received by the consumer computer system, and the annotation comprises a hyperlink and an item selected from the group consisting of a script, executable code, an additional hyperlink, and formatting.
50. (Currently Amended) The computer ~~code~~ readable medium of claim 49, wherein the code is adapted to recognize and annotate an electronic document comprising a web page received by the first computer system from a content provider over a packet switched network and the code uses a key list comprising the set of key elements and identifiers, the identifiers corresponding to one or more URLs.
51. (Currently Amended) The computer ~~code~~ readable medium of claim 50, wherein the code is adapted to recognize and annotate the web page using a key list with at least one key element comprising one or more words.

52. (Previously Presented) The computer ~~code~~ readable medium of claim 51, wherein the code is adapted to retrieve a key list from a remote computer system.
53. (Previously presented) A computer system comprising:
- a central computer system, a client computer system and a content provider computer system;
 - means in the central or client computer system for receiving an electronic page with content from the content provider computer system storing content pages;
 - a key list stored on a computer system other than the content provider computer system, the key list comprising a set of key elements and corresponding identifiers that correspond to addresses for electronic information or data that are relevant to a key element;
 - a recognizer module stored on the client or central computer system for parsing a page received from the content provider computer system and identifying on the electronic page one or more listed key elements matching to predetermined key elements in the stored key list;
 - an annotation module stored on the client or central computer system for associating identified key elements with an annotation from the key list so that a user presented the electronic page can retrieve information related to the key element by selecting the annotation; and
- wherein the annotation module recognizes and annotates key elements in the document that were not previously recognized and/or annotated by the content provider providing the document and the annotation comprises a hyperlink and an item selected from the group consisting of a script, executable code, an additional hyperlink, and formatting.

54. (Currently Amended) A computer readable medium having instructions arranged as a web document ~~stored and being storable~~ in memory on a server, the web document containing code being so executable by a client computer system ~~enabling as to enable~~ the client computer to invoke a remote computer system to generate annotation instructions that are returned to the client computer system, the remote computer system being other than the source of the web document, each annotation instruction corresponding to a key element contained in a key element list, the annotation instructions being used by the client computer system to create an annotation for a predetermined key element on the web document, and wherein the annotations are being made in addition to those native to the original document, as renderably received by the client computer system; and wherein the client computer system recognizes and annotates key elements in the document that were not previously recognized and/or annotated by the content provider providing the document.
55. (Currently Amended) The ~~web document~~computer readable medium of claim 54, wherein the key element comprises one or more words.
56. (Currently Amended) The ~~web document~~computer readable medium of claim 54, wherein the server is a content server.
57. (Currently Amended) The ~~web document~~computer readable medium of claim 54, wherein the server is controlled by a party other than the party that is the source of the web document.

58. (Currently Amended) The ~~web document~~computer readable medium of claim 54, wherein the server is controlled by the party controlling the Internet service provider that serves as a conduit for delivery of the web document to the client computer system.
59. (Currently Amended) The ~~web document~~computer readable medium of claim 54, wherein the executable code comprises instructions directing the client computer system to access a URL for the remote computer system.
60. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 1, wherein the central computer system recognizes key elements on a document corresponding to the content document.
61. (Withdrawn) A method of annotating an electronic document, comprising:
on a computer system comprising a central computer system configured for
annotation and recognition of web documents, accessing a stored web
document comprising predefined content elements and associating
predefined data with one or more of the predefined content elements to
create one or more annotations in the web document, and making the
annotated web document accessible over the Internet to a plurality of
Internet-user computer systems, the predefined data enabling the users
of the computer systems to link to information contextually relevant to one
or more key elements on the stored web document, the contextually
relevant information not being accessible through the stored web
document prior to it becoming an annotated web document, wherein the
stored web document is from a content provider computer system remote
from the computer system performing the steps of annotation and
recognition.

62. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 61 wherein the central computer system is further configured to receive a request from a user for information contextually relevant to a key element based on a user's selection of an annotation and to process the request and return responsive information to the user.
63. (Withdrawn) A method of annotating an electronic document, comprising:
on a computer system configured for annotation of web documents, accessing a stored web document comprising predefined content elements and associating predefined data with one or more of the predefined content elements to create one or more annotations in the web document, the predefined data enabling the user of a computer system rendering the web document to link to information contextually relevant to one or more key elements on the stored web document, the contextually relevant information being provided by a computer system remote from the computer system rendering the web document, the contextually relevant information not being accessible through the stored web document prior to it becoming an annotated web document, wherein the stored web document is from a content provider computer system remote from the computer system configured for the annotation.
64. (Previously Presented) A computer-implemented method for generating annotation instructions in a system comprising a content provider computer system, a central computer system, and a client computer system, the method comprising:
in an electronic content document retrievable from a content provider computer system, which is other than the client and central computer systems,

storing content documents, embedding code executable by a client computer to invoke the central computer system to recognize key elements based on key elements contained in a key-element list; on the client or central computer system, recognizing key elements in the document based on the key elements in the key-element list; on the client or central computer system, generating annotation instructions for the client computer system to create one or more annotations for one or more key elements in the content document and sending the instructions to the client computer system; and wherein the client or central computer system recognizes key elements in the document that were not previously recognized and/or annotated by the content provider providing the document to the client computer system.

65. (Previously presented) A computer-implemented method in a system comprising at least a content provider computer system, a central computer system, and a consumer computer system, the method comprising:

on the consumer computer system, receiving an electronic document from the content provider computer system, which is other than the central computer system, with at least one predetermined key element; invoking a central computer system in response to receiving data about the identity of the electronic document received on the consumer computer system, to generate instructions for the consumer computer system to present to the user of the consumer computer system one or more hyperlinks related to a key element on the electronic document so the user may retrieve data or information related to the key element, the key element being contained in a key-element list, wherein the central

computer system did not provide the electronic document received on the consumer computer system; and
the central computer system sending the instructions to the consumer computer system.

66. (Previously presented) A computer-implemented method for use on a system of networked computers, the method comprising:

from a first central computer system, transmitting to a consumer computer system a consumer code executable on the consumer computer system for (i) the consumer computer system recognizing predetermined key elements on an electronic document and (ii) the consumer computer system annotating the key elements by associating recognized key elements with a URL for a second computer system, the address being determinable from a key list comprising a set of key elements and corresponding identifiers;
wherein one or more key lists are stored on and used by the consumer computer system to recognize key elements in the electronic document that were not previously recognized and/or annotated by the content provider providing the document to the consumer computer system; and
in response to a request from the consumer computer system, a central computer system sending a key list to the consumer computer system.

67. (Currently Amended) A computer readable medium having stored thereon a computer code being executable ~~stored in memory on~~ a central computer system and ~~executable thereon, the code being~~ invokable on the central computer system by a client computer

system to generate annotation instructions for the client computer system to associate annotations with key elements on an electronic page received by the client computer system from a content provider computer system other than the client and central computer systems, the key elements being contained in a key element list, wherein the annotations are being made by the client computer system in addition to those native to the original document, as renderably received by the client computer system, and wherein the computer code operates to recognize and annotate key elements in the document that were not previously recognized and/or annotated by the content provider providing the document to the client computer system.